

For Immediate Release

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HERSETH SANDLIN HOSTS SECRETARY VILSACK FOR RURAL ISSUES FORUM

Washington, DC October 5, 2009- Today, Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin hosted U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack for a Rural Issues Forum at the farm of Jim and Barbara Hundstad in Bath, South Dakota. In May, Rep. Herseth Sandlin invited Secretary Vilsack to survey the extensive flood damage in northeastern South Dakota and hold a town hall meeting with farmers and ranchers. During the forum, representatives of farming and ranching organizations along with area producers had the opportunity to ask questions of Rep. Herseth Sandlin and Secretary Vilsack.

"Today's forum provided an important opportunity for South Dakotans to raise their concerns with Secretary Vilsack about issues that affect their every day lives," Rep. Herseth Sandlin said. "I appreciate Secretary Vilsack traveling to our state to hear directly from South Dakotans and I look forward to continuing our work together to support farmers, ranchers and rural communities."

